

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 30 JUN 2006

Re Section V

Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step, and industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting this statement

1. Reference is made to the following documents:
 - D1: WO 03/071628 A (RAYTHEON COMPANY) 28. August 2003 (08-28-2003)
 - D2: US-A-5 446 425 (BANBA ET AL) 29. August 1995 (08-29-1995)
 - D3: DE 21 51 478 A1 (KATHREIN-WERKE KG; KATHREIN-WERKE KG, 8200 ROSENHEIM, DE) 10. May 1973 (05-10-1973)
2. The present application does not satisfy the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject matter of Claims 1-7 is not novel within the meaning of Article 33(2) PCT.
 - 2.1. Document D1 discloses (the references in parentheses relate to this document):

A stripline directional coupler having two (line 5, lines 12-14) coupling conductors, which are galvanically isolated with respect to a grounding layer at zero potential (line 5, lines 8-11) and each have a port terminal (drawing 1) on their ends, characterized by a multilayer conductor pattern having at least three metallic layers separated by at least two dielectric insulating layers (drawing 2), a first metallic layer forming the coupling conductor, and a second of the at least three metallic layers having a conductor pattern, which is galvanically isolated from the at least two additional metallic layers, and with the aid of which

small capacitors connected in series are formed between the at least three metallic layers (line 9, lines 3-20).

2.2. Dependent Claims 2-7 do not include any features that, in combination with the features of any claim to which they relate, satisfy the requirements of the PCT with regard to novelty; see document D1:

- Claims 2, 3, 6, 7: drawing 2;
- Claim 4: page 11, lines 5-24, drawing 5;
- Claim 5: page 7, lines 27-28;

3. The present application does not satisfy the requirements of Article 33(1) PCT, because the subject matter of Claims 8-10 is not based on an inventive step in the sense of Article 33(3) PCT.

3.1. Regarding the feature of Claims 8 and 9, drawing 2 of document D2 describes the same advantages as the present Application. Therefore, one skilled in the art would incorporate this feature into the directional coupler described in D2 as a customary design step.

3.2 The feature "... the at least two insulating layers are made of a fiberglass/epoxy combination" (Claim 10) is only one of many obvious options, from which one skilled in the art would select according to the circumstances, without performing an inventive step (see D3, column 2, lines 35-42).

Re Point VIII

4. The Application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because Claim 1 is not clear.

Claim 1 does not satisfy the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because the subject matter of the claim is not clearly defined ("with the aid of [by] which small capacitors connected in series are formed between the at least three metallic layers"). In the claim, an attempt is made to define the subject matter by the result that is to be achieved, but in the process, only the object to be attained is stated, without offering the technical features necessary for achieving this result.